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THE OBSERVATOR.

More Remarks on the Addreſs of the Parliament to the Queen, about the Terms of the Peace, and her Majeſty's Anſwer. On the State of Affairs in Catalonia *and* Portugal. *On the Naturalization-Act.*

From Saturday, March 5. to Wednesday, March 9. 1709.

Country-m. I Want ſome farther Diſcourſe with you, Maſter, concerning the Addreſs of our Lords and Commons about the Terms to be demanded in Caſe of a Peace; to which her Majeſty has been pleas'd to return a gracious Anſwer, *viz.* 'That ſhe was always of the ſame Opinion 'with her two Houſes, in the ſeveral Particulars of 'that Addreſs, as ſhe has alſo been in all the other 'they have made upon the ſame Subject; and aſ-'ſur'd them, that no Care ſhould be wanting on 'her Part, to attain the End they have deſir'd. The good Harmony betwixt her Majeſty and the Parliament, rejoyces me extreamly, Maſter; for I am ſatisfy'd, that's one of the chief Means to attain the End of the Addreſs.

Obſ. That's not to be doubted, *Roger*; but I perceive, if we may truſt what came over in ſome of the *Dutch* Prints by the laſt Mail, that the *French* King ſeems to have little Inclination to ſend the Pretender out of his Dominions, or not to countenance him in his Attempts to diſturb her Majeſty, and her Heirs and Succeſſors in the Proteſtant Line; therefore we are under a Neceſſity of backing our Addreſſes with vigorous Efforts by Sea and Land, to humble him yet farther, and to cut off the Expectations of his Friends here, who are big with Hopes, that ſome Time or other, and perhaps ſooner than we are aware, the *French* King will ſecond their Deſires and Invitations to ſend him out of his Dominions, but with a Deſign to poſſeſs himſelf of her Majeſty's Crowns and Dignity. We perceive he is not yet ſo low, but he has Men of War to attack ours upon our own Coaſt, in the narrow Seas, which we have always laid juſt Claim to, as our own Dominions; therefore I think it concerns us to have a good Fleet in Readineſs betimes, to prevent his Landing the Pretender upon us with Forces *in Terra firma*; wherein, tho' he ſhould not ſucceed, yet it may occaſion a great deal of Diſturbance and Bloodſhed among us, eſpecially if *Scotland* be not much better taken Care of, and provided for a Defence, than 'twas laſt Year.

Country-m. We are not to doubt, Maſter, but we ſhall both have a good Fleet ready betimes to defend our Coaſts, and that *Scotland* will be duly provided for; the wretched Poſture of that Country, in ſo dangerous a Conjuncture, has been ſo much complain'd of, and the Hazard of Suffering it to continue ſo, has been laid open in ſuch a lively Manner, that there can be no Excuſe for expoſing that Part of the united Kingdom to ſuch a forlorn Condition a ſecond Time. Beſides, Maſter, I hear the Commons are to be upon that Invation in a few Days; ſo that we are not to queſtion but many of thoſe will be for looking forward to prevent ſuch a Neglect (or call it what elſe you pleaſe) for Time to come, that for Reaſons known to themſelves, which no doubt are very weighty, may not be ſo much for looking back into the Cauſes of that which is paſt.

Obſ. With all my Heart, *Roger*; thoſe at the Helm are always entitl'd to know what's beſt; and ſo we be ſecur'd againſt Popery and Slavery, 'tis all one to me, whether it be by looking forward or backward; but I have heard my Grannum ſay, that when ſhe was afraid of having her Houſe attack'd by Thieves without, ſhe took Care, in the firſt Place, to examine, that there was none within, leſt they ſhou'd run out with her Bag at a Back-door or Window, or open them to the Thieves without, while her Servants were defending the principal Gate and Avenues. But what News from *Spain*, *Roger*? How go Matters in *Catalonia* and *Portugal*?

Country-m. Why, truly, Maſter, the News by the laſt foreign Mail, bring very broad Hints, that King *Charles* is in great Diſtreſs. He makes preſſing Inſtances with his Brother the Emperor, for a ſpeedy Supply of Men and Money, otherwiſe he is in Danger of loſing *Tarragona*, and other Places. He has a potent Enemy to fight againſt Abroad, and a hungry and needy People to deal with at Home, who complain of their Want of Proviſions, &c. His Troops, at the Review in *January* laſt, if we may believe the *French* Letters, were not above 4500 Foot, and 3000 Horſe; and they ſay, the *Portugueſe* and their Allies have not above 12000 Men.

Obſ. That's a diſmal Account indeed, *Roger*; but ſince it comes by Way of *France*, 'tis probably aggravated. However, you and I have talk'd enough formerly of our Apprehenſions, from the foreign Gazettes, that Things were in an ill Poſture on that Side; which I hope, among other Enquiries, will not be neglected; for to loſe *Catalonia*, and to be in ſo weak a Condition in *Portugal*, is not the Way to recover the *Spaniſh* Monarchy and the *Weſt Indies*, from the Houſe of *Bourbon*, which every Body knows was the chief End of the War. I was in Hopes, after we had taken *Port Mahone*, that we ſhould have been able to have ſupply'd *Catalonia* with Proviſions; and by keeping a ſtrong Squadron there, well mann'd and commanded, we might have landed Troops and Proviſions, with Money enough, in *Catalonia*, and have put King *Charles* in a Poſture of Defence at leaſt; which I hope will be taken Care of ſtill, *Roger*; for the Emperor is certainly able, ſince the Pope has ſubmitted, to ſend a ſtrong Reinforcement from *Italy* to his Brother, provided he be ſupply'd in due Time with Ships, Proviſions, and Money.

Country-m. The Parliament gives Money enough, Maſter, for our Share, to ſupport the Allies, whatever comes on't; and they have been enquiring into the Charge of Remittances. I hope there's no Receivers of the Money who break, and inſtead of giving it to King *Charles*, play it away by ſitting up all Night a Gaming at Baſſet, Picquet, or Lanſquenet, and then force him to compound with them.

Obſ. What brings that wild Fancy into thy Noddle, *Roger*?

Country-m. Why may not Receivers break there, as well as here, Maſter? And how do I know, but they have as many Gaming Chocolate-houſes, &c. in *Catalonia*, as there are in other Places? Do you think it impoſſible, Maſter, that there ſhould be any *German*, *Spaniſh*, and *Catalan* Officers and Lords, that prefer their Game to their Buſineſs, and their Prince's Service, and ſpend more Time that Way, than they do on the publick Affairs, as we had thoſe who did here in King *Charles* the IIs Time.

Obſ.

Obj. We have heard of no such Complaints from thence, *Roger*; but rather that they want Money for Neceſſaries, than have it in ſuch Affluence as to play it away, either in private or publick Houſes. And for his Lords and Miniſters, I fancy they have ſomewhat elſe to think on, than to ſit up all Night at Games. 'Twould ſeem, by the News, that they ſhould rather think how to make a good Defence, or if that will not do, a handſome and ſafe Retreat: Put in Caſe that Prince have any who receive his Money, that are not ſo honeſt as to give him the whole, what would you do to prevent it, *Roger?*

Country-m. I would never employ them any more, and puniſh them into the Bargain, Maſter. Nay, rather than his Majeſty ſhould not have it, I would do as a certain Quaker did to our King *Charles* the II.

Obj. How was that, *Roger?*

Country-m. Why, Maſter, when one of thoſe that collected the Chimney-Tax, came to demand the Quaker's Proportion, he told the Collector, *That he ow'd him none; the Money was due to the King, and he would pay it to himſelf.* Accordingly, Maſter, he went to the King, as he was feeding his Birds in the Park, and told him, *Friend* Charles, *there came a Man from thee t'other Day, to ask Money of me for my Chimnies; but I have heard thou hast been cheated ſo much, that I was reſolv'd to pay it thee my ſelf; and lo! there it is.*

Obj. I gueſs at your Meaning, *Roger.* We are not to doubt, but the Parliament, who gives the Money, will enquire how it is laid out; whether there be ſuch a Number of Troops in *Catalonia* and *Portugal*, as we pay for? and if they be defective, what is the Cauſe of it? I think it concerns us as much as it does the *French*, to know what Numbers of Men were in thoſe Parts at the laſt Review. We pay our Money for effective Men, and not to be ſunk into other Peoples Pockets, rioted away in Taverns, or pil'd up on Gaming-Tables, to be ſwept away by rooking Gameſters, that ought rather to be lodg'd in Priſons, or Houſes of Correction, and preſs'd into the Sea-Service, to hawl Ropes, and into the Land-Service, to carry Powder, than ſuffer'd to live in any well-govern'd Country. Our Anceſtors were ſo wiſe, as I prov'd to you formerly by ſeveral Inſtances, that when they gave Money for the Defence of the Kingdom, they appointed who ſhou'd receive, and pay it out; and that they ſhould be accountable for it to the Parliament at next Meeting. They appointed Magiſtrates and Merchants of *London* to diſburſe the Money they gave for Protection of our Trade, and paying our Cruiſers, becauſe, being concern'd in Trade themſelves, it was their Intereſt to ſee it encourag'd, and not undermin'd; nor to let the publick Money be made Uſe of to carry on a clandeſtine Trade, to cheat the Government of their Cuſtoms, and to ruin the fair Traders: Nay, I have been told, that even ſo low as K. *Charles* the II's Time, when they gave Money to diſband his Army, they appointed thoſe who ſhou'd ſee it done, and would not truſt it to ambitious and arbitrary Courtiers. Our Anceſtors being ſenſible, that ſuch Men had ſometimes ſubverted our Liberty, by the publick Money, with which they brib'd Parliaments, were careful to prevent it; for they look'd upon that to be as barbarous, as the boiling of a Kid in its Mother's Milk, which was ſo ſtrictly prohibited to the *Jews.*

Country-m. They had good Reaſon ſo to do, Maſter. I remember how the Nation groan'd under King *Charles* the II's Penſioner-Parliament; how they curs'd thoſe Repreſentatives who betray'd 'em, and the Courtiers that brib'd them, whom they compar'd to *Æſop's* Country-man, who ſplit a Tree with a Wedge of its own Timber; and I remember to have ſeen a Liſt of thoſe Penſioners, with their Characters, and the particular Sums pay'd 'em out of *Judas's* Bag, to betray their Maſters. Pray God deliver us, and all other Nations, from ever ſuffering under the like Calamity in Time to come, Maſter.

Obj. Enough of this Subject at once, *Roger.* What do People ſay now to the Naturalization-Bill? for I find the Commons have ſent it to the Lords.

Country-m. There are ſome who do ſtill inſiſt upon the Danger of our Church by it, Maſter.

Obj. But without Reaſon, for any Thing I can perceive, *Roger.* 'Tis plain, that the far greateſt Number of *French* and other Proteſtants, who have come hither from beyond Sea, conform to the Church of *England*, either by going to our Pariſh Churches, or ſetting up the Church of *England*-Worſhip in their own; which I think is an Argument, that the Church will rather be ſtrengthen'd, than weaken'd by the Naturalization-Bill. Beſides, *Roger*, Foreigners, who come hither to enjoy the Benefit of our Priviledges, will, in all Probability, rather join with ſuch as are entitl'd to all Poſts and Offices, than with ſuch as labour under a Note of Diſgrace themſelves, and are excluded from Places of Power and Truſt, by the Sacramental Teſt.

Advertiſements.

Juſt publiſh'd,

☞ The Scourge of Venus and Mercury, repreſented in a Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; together with an Appendix in anſwer to Mr. John Marten's Reflexions thereupon. By J. Sinteler, Practitioner in Phyſick. Price of the Appendix alone bound 6d, together 3 s. 6d. Sold by R. Gotting at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, W. Carter at the Green Dragon in St. Paul's Church-yard, J. Phillips at the Black Bull in Cornhill, H. Riboteau at the Crown near Cecil-ſtreet in the Strand, B. Picard at the 3 Bibles in the Minories, J. Harding in St. Martins-lane near Long-acre, J. Morphew near Stationers-hall, and by the Author at his Dwelling-houſe (late the Duke of Leeds's) in high Holborn, over againſt little Turn-ſtile.

Juſt publiſh'd,

☞ A Sermon preach'd before the Queen at St. James's, on Thurſday the 17th of February, being appointed for a Day of general Thankſgiving to Almighty God, for our many and great Succeſſes throughout this laſt Year. By Tho. Manningham, D. D. Dean of Windſor, and Chaplain in Ordinary to her Majeſty. Publiſh'd by her Majeſty's ſpecial Command. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row. Price in 4to 6d. and 8vo 1d.

☞ The extraordinary Succeſs of Mr. William Croſſe, Profeſſor of Phyſick and Oculiſt, in curing Diſtempers of the Eyes, frequently recommends him to the Aſſiſtance of ſeveral Perſons afflicted with the moſt difficult Diſeaſes of the ſame, who are, from Time to Time, by his Preſcriptions, perfectly recover'd, after having ineffectually apply'd themſelves to others, as is evident by Certificates given under their Hands; Variety of which may be ſeen at his Houſe againſt Cecil-ſtreet in the Strand, where he is conſtantly to be adviſ'd with. ☞ There is lately publiſh'd by the ſaid Mr. Croſſe, A brief Treatiſe of the Eyes, in which not only the Structure of the ſame is Anatomically demonſtrated, but the Diſtempers (which for the moſt part are incident thereto) are likewiſe diſtinctly deſcrib'd. To which is added, ſome particular Directions for preſerving the Sight, &c. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-hall. Price bound 1 s.

☞ The Royal Decoction, or a never-failing Diet-Drink againſt the Venereal Diſeaſe. Its wonderful Efficacy is ſuch, that any Patient may be thereby moſt effectually cur'd, be it of never ſo long ſtanding, and aggravated by ineffectual Salivations, and the Body be cover'd with Scabs, Ulcers, Blotches, and the Legs with Holes, all the Limbs with moſt excruciating Pains, the Palate eaten away, and the Noſe fallen in, &c. This Anti-venereal Decoction eaſes all the Venereal Pains in 8 Days, and in 30 Days perfects the whole Cure, and that without the Uſe of Mercury. The Gentleman, who alone prepares this Decoction, offers to enter into an Engagement, from 100 to 500 Pounds, for the Performance of what he promiſes, if any Patient, tho' diſcourag'd by other Practitioners, will come to his Houſe, he will furniſh them with Neceſſaries, as well as Phyſick, for 8 Days, and if by that time he is not ſatisfy'd that he may be perfectly cur'd, he is free to leave it, without paying any thing for Lodging, Diet, or Phyſick. The Taſte of this Decoction is ſo pleaſant, and the Operation ſo kind to Nature, that big-belly'd Women and Sucklings are daily cur'd with it at all the Seaſons of the Year. The Doctor or his Wife are to be ſpoken with at all ſeaſonable Hours, at the Hand and Urinal, over againſt little Turn-ſtile in high Holborn, (late the D. of Leeds's.) N.B. The Bill at large is to be ſeen hanging up in the Royal Exchange, London.

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